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State of New Mexico

SECRETARY OF STATE

Difficulty to

Susana Martinez
Governor

April 6, 2017

SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 46

The Honorable Mary Kay Papen, President Pro Tempore and Members of the New Mexico State Senate State Capitol Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Honorable President Pro Tempore Papen and Members of the Senate:

Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of New Mexico, Article IV, Section 22, I hereby VETO and return SENATE FLOOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL 386, enacted by the Fifty-Third Legislature, First Session, 2017.

Senate Bill 386 proposes a minimum wage of \$9.00 and a trainee wage of \$8.00. While I applaud the sponsor's engagement of rural businesses that resulted in an amendment to phase in these changes over the course of a year, these minimum wages would still have a disproportionate impact on our rural small businesses, without any corresponding protection for business owners.

At the same time the Legislature voted to raise \$350 million in new taxes on businesses and families, including increasing taxes on a tank of gas, they cannot expect New Mexico's future to be brighter. It would make more sense to fully fund and make permanent the Job Training Incentive Program, which trains workers for jobs that pay, on average, well above \$11 an hour.

Our small businesses are the backbone of our state's economy, and those businesses, especially those in rural areas, cannot sustain the changes this bill puts forth.

For these reasons, I hereby veto Senate Bill 386.

Respectfully yours,

Susana Martinez Governor SENATE EXECUTIVE MESSAGE NO. 46 The Honorable Mary Kay Papen April 6, 2017 Page 2

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